



NEWS RELEASE

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Some tips this Thanksgiving for keeping drain, sewer lines open

If you plan to deep fry a turkey for Thanksgiving you can get rid of that used oil and help the environment by taking part in a Deep Fryer Oil Recycling Drop Off Event on Saturday, Nov. 24.

The recycling program is sponsored by the city's Fats, Oils and Grease Program, which is working to keep the gunk out of the sewer system.

When fats, oils and grease (including food scraps, gravies, icing and dairy products) are poured down the drain they quickly begin to cool and cling to sewer pipes. The eventual buildup can cause clogs that result in sanitary sewer overflows and backups in homes and businesses.

Not only is that bad for the environment, but it could require a costly cleanup.

This Thanksgiving, residents are encouraged to pour used deep fryer oil (only) back into the original container or another closed container and take it to the recycling booth at the corner of Power Plant Parkway and Pine Chapel Road between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Nov. 24.

Whether it's Thanksgiving or any other day, residents are also urged to:

- Never pour grease directly down the drain. Instead pour it in an old soup can, place the can in the freezer, and then dispose of the grease in the trash once it hardens.
- Avoid using the garbage disposal because food particles mix with cooling grease and only accentuate grease buildup problems.
- Use sink strainers or drain screens, and dispose of food caught in the strainer in the trash can.

- Always scrape any food scrap off dishes and wipe dirty dishes with a paper towel before washing them.

For more information, go to <http://www.hampton.gov/fog> or call Brianna Venner, coordinator of the grease program, at 757-726-2962. You can also Watch Venner on Round Robin at <http://www.youtube.com/user/HamptonVAGovernment/videos?query=grease>

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